

Helping your child to become a reader



Top tips:

Make time for reading every day. Even 5 minutes a day can make a big difference.

Don't worry if you can't read in English – talking about books in any language will support your child's reading.

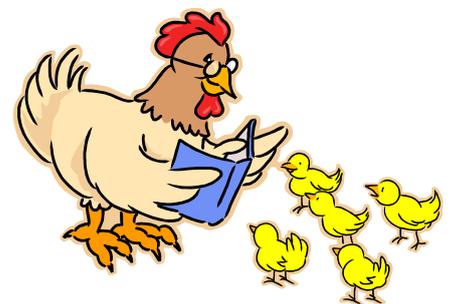
Start encouraging your child to enjoy books from an early age – this will have a huge impact on how well they do at school when they are older.

Allow your child to choose the book whenever possible. Yes, they may often choose their favourite over and over again ... this is quite natural.

Find somewhere quiet with no distractions.

Encourage other family members to read with your child.

Set a good example by reading yourself.



Have books in your house. You can borrow them for free from the library or buy them cheaply at charity shops.



Watch subtitles in English on your T.V.



Talk about the pictures and cover of the book. For example, “Can you see the wolf hiding?” Find good places to stop and ask; “What do you think will happen next?”

Show your emotions when you are reading. For example, laugh, smile, look scared or look sad. Be enthusiastic. Have fun with reading!

Read to your child!

- It is hugely important for children of all ages to be read to.



- Books can be read in any language and can be from simple picture books to long chapter books.
- Having this special time with you will help your child develop a love for reading.

Read with your child!

If they get stuck on a word:

- encourage them to sound out each letter and blend the sounds to get the word
- use the pictures for a clue

If you are still stuck, use online translation to find out what the word means.

Try to be positive and praise your child for their effort and achievement, even if they do not read the whole book fluently!

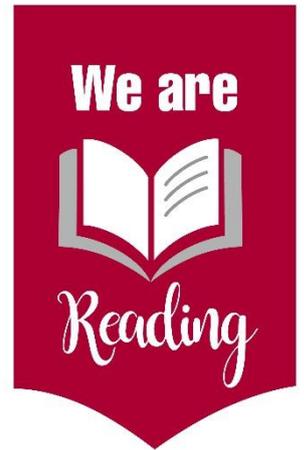
After reading:

- Talk about similar experiences your child might have had. “Do you remember when you ...” “It’s just like when you ...”



- Talk about the story afterwards. “Which bit did you like?” “Wasn’t it funny when ...”

- Reading with your child makes reading fun. If reading is fun, children will become good readers and learn to read for themselves ... which after all is what we really want.

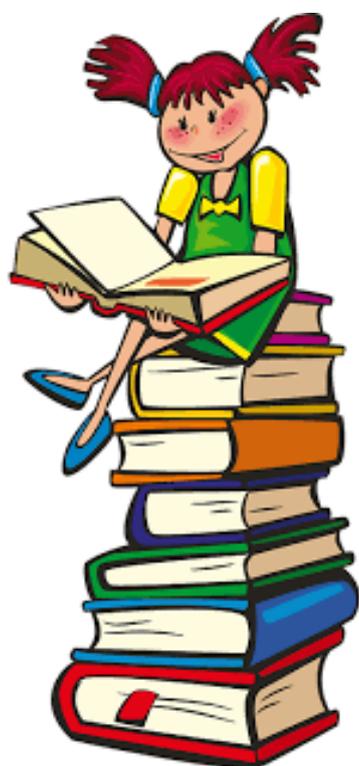


What if I can't read in English?

If your child is reading in English, you can still speak about the book in your language.

It also helps to keep reading stories in your language too.

Sharing stories is about you spending time together, having fun, not just learning to read.



Listening to audio books could help you both learn English together.

School will teach your child how to read – parents can help a child learn how to love reading.